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Federal Agencies

August 6, 2004

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Art Unit 1722

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Application No. 10/775,154; Filed: February 11, 2004  
For: Telescopic Manifold Nozzle Seal  
Inventor: George Olaru  
Our Ref: 2107.0640001/TUM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO/SB/08a (1 sheet) listing 24 cited documents (AA1-AQ1 and BA1-BG1);
3. A copy of the cited foreign patent documents (BA1-BG1); and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Teresa U. Medler  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 44,933

TUM/BKB:kim  
Enclosures  
295546.1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:  
George Olaru  
Appl. No.: 10/775,154  
Filed: February 11, 2004  
For: **Telescopic Manifold Nozzle Seal**

Confirmation No.: 1197  
Art Unit: 1722  
Examiner: *To Be Assigned*  
Atty. Docket: 2107.0640001/TUM/NRK

**Information Disclosure Statement**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO/SB/08a are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicant has listed publication dates on the attached PTO/SB/08a based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicant has checked the appropriate boxes below.

- 1. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- 2. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA), OR within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No statement or fee is required.
- 3. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

- a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- c. Attached is our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
4. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:
- a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign

application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

5. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.

6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language documents BA1 is provided by the English translation attached thereto.

7. Copies of documents BA1-BG1 are submitted herewith.

8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

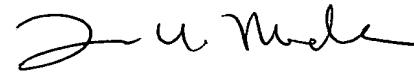
9. No copies of U.S. patents and patent application publications cited on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a are submitted in accordance with 1276 OG 55 because this application was filed after June 30, 2003.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO/SB/08a, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

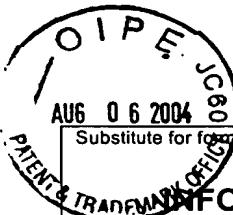


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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1 Attorney Docket Number 2107.0640001/TUM/NRK

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (If Known)			
	AA1	US-4,588,367	05-13-1986	Schad	
	AB1	US-4,682,754	07-28-1987	Schad	
	AC1	US-4,818,217	04-04-1989	Schmidt <i>et al.</i>	
	AD1	US-4,902,218	02-20-1990	Leonard <i>et al.</i>	
	AE1	US-5,032,078	07-16-1991	Benenati	
	AF1	US-5,125,827	06-30-1992	Gellert	
	AG1	US 5,478,230	12-26-1995	McGrevey	
	AH1	US 5,518,393	05-21-1996	Gessner	
	AI1	US-5,609,893	03-11-1997	Eastwood	
	AJ1	US-5,853,776	12-29-1998	Meijer	
	AK1	US-5,896,640	04-27-1999	Lazinski <i>et al.</i>	
	AL1	US-6,062,846	05-16-2000	Kalemba	
	AM1	US 6,261,084	07-17-2001	Schmidt	
	AN1	US-6,309,207 B1	10-30-2001	Kalemba	
	AO1	US-6,669,462 B1	12-30-2003	Jenko	
	AP1	US-2001/0011415 A1	08-09-2001	Kalemba	
	AQ1	US-2003/0075563 A1	04-24-2003	Bazzo <i>et al.</i>	

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (in known)				
	BA1	DE 100 08 722 A1	08-30-2001	Braun		
	BB1	EP 0 841 141 A1	05-13-1998	Lazinski		
	BC1	EP 1 053 852 A1	11-22-2000	Schmidt		
	BD1	EP 1 300 232 A	04-09-2003	Bazzo		
	BE1	WO 96/21548 A1	07-18-1996	Eastwood		
	BF1	WO 01/81066A1	11-01-2001	Corocher <i>et al.</i>		
	BG1	WO 01/87570 A1	11-22-2001	Jenko		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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